



American Conservation Experience
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American Conservation Experience

2013-2014

Flagstaff, Arizona

Federal Legislative District(s): 1

PROGRAM FAST FACTS

Congressional District(s): AZ01
State Legislative District(s): 1
Service Area by County/City:
Coconino/Flagstaff
Project Federal Share: \$73,150
Project Local Match: \$34,566
Community Volunteers Recruited: 201
Volunteer Hours Served: 751
Value of Volunteer Hours: 15,080.08
*2011 Independent Sector Rate for the Value of a Volunteer Hour in Arizona is \$20.08

Community Need

Arizona Public Lands are our heritage, and a treasure to be cared for thoughtfully. The need to maintain them for future generations is something we strive to achieve on every project. Caring for this land is something that we feel brings people together on not only a Local and National level but Globally. There is a need in our local community for youth job skills training to develop and foster the next generation of land stewards.

National Priority Area and Program Performance Goals

National Priority Area - Environmental Stewardship:

AmeriCorps members will create and or improve 12 miles of trails or waterways. Additionally, at least 7 AmeriCorps Members will obtain employment after their term of service with ACE or similar organization where they can utilize the skills they have gained during their experience.

Program Activities

American Conservation Experience is a Non-Profit conservation corps providing trained, motivated, well-supervised crews of young adults to accomplish ecological restoration projects on America's public lands. Crews perform a wide range of environmental conservation projects including trail work and maintenance, invasive plant eradication, planting trees, wildlife survey's, constructing fences, and building rock walls.

Program Impact

American Conservation Experience is exactly as it states... an experience. Giving on-site training and volunteer service project experience to youth and young adults impacts both the service participants and the communities we serve.

Our relationship with the AmeriCorps Program has elevated us to continuing ACE's great partnerships with our states National Parks, Forests and Monuments. Through those relationships our Members have been able to work directly under those organizations working with leaders in the field of conservation learning valuable knowledge and trade skills that will take them far in their personal careers.

During the 2012-2013 program year, the ACE AmeriCorps Members constructed 5.1 miles of new trail, maintained 41.1 miles of existing trail, constructed 2.04 miles of new fence, and maintained 9.2 miles of existing trail which resulted in the members serving 14,309 community service hours. Also in the last year, ACE successfully transitioned 8 out of our 15 graduating AmeriCorps Members into Crew Leader positions for ACE, a direct result of the skills and experiences they gained as AmeriCorps members. Giving them the skills they need to become land stewards is impactful for our great state. We are giving these young adults the tools necessary to not only help preserve the natural beauty of Arizona, but we also hope that through these AmeriCorps Members they can pay it forward by training the next generations the importance of Conservation work and Volunteerism in Arizona.

"I have progressed both in my technical skills and leadership abilities. Further, working alongside the NPS for multiple months has shown me exactly what it takes to work for the National Park Service, and how I can best apply myself to the mission of Conservation."
—ACE AmeriCorps member 2013.



American Conservation Experience

Mission

American Conservation Experience (ACE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing rewarding environmental service opportunities that harness the idealism and energy of a volunteer labor force to help restore America's public lands. ACE is grounded in the philosophy that cooperative labor on meaningful conservation projects fosters cross-cultural understanding and operates on the belief that challenging volunteer service unites people of all backgrounds in common cause.

Vision

American Conservation Experience hopes to lead the way in combining Conservation work with an emphasis on community volunteerism. We strive to help in maintaining our National Parks and Public Lands, as well as our local community, while guiding the next generation of future Conservationists by giving them the education and hands on training necessary to be successful Leaders in our Community.

History

American Conservation Experience (ACE) was Founded in 2002 under the Nevada Conservation Corps which has been directly involved with National Service, partnering closely with AmeriCorps and the state of Arizona. Located in Flagstaff, Arizona and serving much of Arizona and the 4 corners region. ACE received Non Profit Status in May 2004, and in 2009 was awarded an AmeriCorps State Formula Grant as well as receiving AmeriCorps slots through the Youth in Action AmeriCorps program based in Flagstaff, AZ. ACE has been a proud AmeriCorps grantee ever since.

Partnerships

Grand Canyon National Park
Flagstaff Area National Monuments
United States Forest Service Coronado National Forest
Natural Channel Designs
Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument
Arizona Game and Fish Department
United States Forest Service Coconino National Forest
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Northern Arizona University
Navajo National Monuments
Saguaro National Park
Bureau of Land Management Arizona Strip Office
University of Arizona
US Fish and Wildlife
Navajo Nation Workforce Development Program

OTHER

American Conservation Experience (ACE) is proud to belong to the highly successful Corps movement. ACE addresses several specific community needs that are either unprecedented in the Corps movement or under-addressed and in need of attention in our great State. As we are an International Conservation Program ACE is very proud to have the ability to provide Members diversity on a global level. We have the unique capability of teaming foreign volunteers with AmeriCorps members which allows a unique and rewarding experience for our Corps as a whole.

ACE and AmeriCorps have partnered to provide specialized training to young adults who are eager and determined to establish themselves as leaders in the field of conservation. ACE's AmeriCorps members participate in a 6 month professional development program preparing them for outdoor careers with ACE, with other Conservation Corps, or with land management agencies such as the National Park Service, US Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management.

